

June 27, 2005
Seven o'clock P.M.
North Little Rock School District Board Room
2700 Poplar
North Little Rock, Arkansas

The regular meeting of the North Little Rock City Council scheduled for Monday, June 27, 2005, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the honorable Mayor PATRICK HENRY HAYS. The roll having been called, and the following Aldermen answered to their names: MARTIN GIPSON, NEIL BRYANT, LINDA ROBINSON, OLEN THOMAS, GARY BERRY, CHARLIE HIGHT and MURRY WITCHER, a quorum was declared (7/0). Alderman JOHN PARKER was absent. City Clerk Diane Whitbey and Acting City Attorney Jason Carter were also present.

The invocation was given by Mayor Hays, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag which was also led by Mayor Hays.

On the motion of Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderman Hight, and by consent of all members present, the minutes from a regular council meeting held on Monday, June 13, 2005, were accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk (7/0).

Mayor Hays asked Mr. Jason Carter, Acting City Attorney to distribute copies of a Special Call regarding legislation for a City Council meeting to be held tomorrow, Tuesday, June 28, 2005, at 7:15 p.m. at the North Little Rock School District Administration Building located at 2700 Poplar. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss O-05-41 and O-05-42 regarding a sales tax to increase the size of the Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizens Center and a Ballpark downtown for the Arkansas Travelers. Mayor Hays is continuing negotiations with the Arkansas Traveler organization. Mr. Carter distributed copies of the two ordinances which change the date of the election to August 9, 2005, and a beginning day for collection of the tax of October 1, 2005.

On the motion of Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderman Berry, and by consent of all members present, communications #1, 3, 5 and 6 were not read but accepted and filed (7/0).

1. Sharon Tedford, Mayor's Office memorandum re: application for new retail beer on premise permit for Blue Coast Burrito, 4613 East McCain by Gerald Ryan Hamra.
3. Mayor Hays memorandum appointing Mr. Patrick Lane as permanent Director of the North Little Rock Street Department with a beginning annual salary of \$49,000.00. After a 12 month probation period, increase amount by \$5,000.00.
5. Mike Smith, Chief City Engineer memorandum to Mayor Hays re: Improvements on Camp Robinson Road from 47th Street to Camp Robinson Road and Remount Road split. Low bidder Cranford Asphalt Company in the amount of \$162,683.20.
6. Mary Beth Bowman, Community Development Agency Director letter to Mayor Hays re: \$50,605.00 from year 2002 Program Income and need to allocate funds immediately (Housing Rehabilitation \$33,980.00, Administration \$8,496.00, and 35th Street - Drainage and Street Improvements \$8,129.00)

On the motion of Alderman Hight and seconded by Alderman Witcher, and by consent of all members present, communication #2 was read by title only, accepted and filed (7/0).

2. Information Release from Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department re: Highway 67/167 Frontage Roads converting to one-way operation in North Little Rock.

On the motion of Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Witcher, and by consent of all members present, Communication #4 was amended as follows:: change \$350,000.00 to *\$300,000.00* and *delete #3*. On the motion of Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderman Gipson and by consent of all members present, the communication was read in part, accepted and filed as amended (7/0).

4. Mayor Hays letter to City Council members re: reallocation of Health Department Improvements Funds (~~\$350,00.00~~ \$300,000.00 - \$100,000.00 to construct a fence in the general area of the library and the main community center to complement Laman Plaza and \$200,000.00 for audio/visual equipment for the City Council Chambers in City Hall to enhance and extend the ability of residents to be informed on the activities which take place in the Council Chambers).

Mayor Hays invited Dr. Rob Lambert to come forward. Dr. Lambert provided a power point presentation regarding proposed extension of the bicycle trail in North Little Rock. Mayor Hays advised he road the trail to Murray Loch and Dam and the pillars are being installed for the longest pedestrian/bike bridge in the United States. Dr. Lambert has lived in North Little Rock for 19 years and is a cardiologist. The city acquired Federal Funding to widen portions of the bike trail and the exercise trail along the Arkansas River. Expanding the trail would connect neighborhoods, schools and shopping areas. Arkansas has one of the highest death rates due to heart disease. More trails and expanding existing trails would encourage exercise. Property values for homes adjacent to trails are 5% to 32% higher than homes not located near trails. Portions of the route could extend from North Hills to the East Campus and Lakewood Middle School, and through Dark Hollow. A path along Joe Poch Drive and along Military Road could make Burns Park more accessible. Connecting the trails would benefit everyone in the city. Without objection, Mayor Hays called R-05-87 (See below).

R-05-87 (RESOLUTION NO. 6786 - MAYOR HAYS AND ALDERMAN HIGHT)

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ADVANCEMENT OF A BICYCLE SYSTEM PROVIDING A LOOP AND CENTER ROUTE WITHIN THE CITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderman Hight and seconded by Alderman Thomas, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0).

Ms. Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Collector asked permission to make a presentation. Ms. Whitbey recently attended the 71st Annual Arkansas Municipal League Convention in Hot Springs, Arkansas. During the convention, officials who served their cities and towns for 25 years were recognized for their long-term devotion to their work, municipalities and to the League. Ms. Whitbey presented the Distinguished Legislator Award to Mrs. Linda Marshall, Assistant City Clerk and Collector who has worked in the City Clerk's Office since 1979. Mayor Hays thanked Mrs. Marshall for her service to the citizens of North Little Rock and her smiling face at City Hall.

Mayor Hays convened public hearings regarding O-05-39, an ordinance adopting an amended Land Use Plan for the western part of the City of North Little Rock north and south of Maumelle Boulevard and O-05-40, an ordinance to reclassify property located on the

west side of the end of Vestal Boulevard from C-1, C-2, C-4 and I-2 to R-4 and C-3. Mayor Hays advised a phased apartment complex could be built off of Maumelle Boulevard. The owner of a rock quarry operating in the neighborhood is concerned about mixing residential and commercial use. North Little Rock is committed to enhancing residential growth. Mr. Kent Vestal owns the property. The project he is proposing would be in phases of 96 units each for a total of 960 units. The target group would be people who earn between \$25,000.00 and \$50,000.00 per year which would bring an excess of \$100,000,000.00 in annual gross revenue to the city. The opposition is concerned regarding blasting on the quarry property. Mr. Vestal said state and federal laws regulate the blasting in the area and if the quarry complies with the laws, a buffer would not be needed. A petition was distributed including signatures of area business owners. He felt the development had been misrepresented. The project would not be low-income housing or increase crime in the area. Business owners have indicated they would be glad to have the project. Mr. Mark Stodola is an attorney and represents the developer. Quarry owners have responsibilities which regulate their operation. Alderman Gipson said the regulations do not separate residential zones from commercial. Existing zoning is C-2 and C-4, with a request to rezone those portions to C-3, and to rezone the remaining property to R-4. Alderman Hight asked how the proposed land use/zoning changes would affect the quarry property. Mr. Stodola referred to exiting businesses in the area. With the required 50' buffer and the 585' additional buffer, the total would be 635' or more than two football fields. If 800' were granted, it would take up to 58% of the existing property in the rezoning application. These distances do not include vertical distances. Mr. Mike Marlar, Marlar Engineering, illustrated the development area and an 800' buffer which would be equivalent to 410 acres or 1,200 potential homes. Mr. Marlar discussed the potential for residential development in the area. North Little Rock Waste Water spent over \$3,000,000.00 to extend its 36" interceptor to help facilitate development in the area. Mr. David Jones, Engineer with Marlar Engineering provided an illustration of the total property owned by the Vestal's and discussed the effect of specific buffers. Alderman Witcher asked how the additional footage would be conveyed. Mr. Vestal said he is not asking for rezoning of property north of the 585' buffer line. Alderman Witcher asked if the developer would object to an easement for a stipulated period of time. Mr. Vestal said he hopes to put condominiums in the area after quarry operations cease. Mr. Haskell Dickenson is President of McGeorge Contracting Company and owns the quarry. He referred to a map and which allowed light industrial use because of the type of businesses in the area. There are 12 million tons of rock in the area which will take approximately 15 years to quarry. Mr. Dickenson said the developer has other land he could rezone to make up for the property being discussed and that he helped write state blasting regulations. The 50' buffer has nothing to do with anything except the lateral support of the quarry to prevent the mine from slumping. Federal regulations mention vibration of 2" per second being the limit and going over that limit could cause structural damage. State regulations require 1" per second. There is no rock on the Vestal property. Mr. Dickenson recently acquired the E. C. Riley Construction Company. He has a \$3,000,000.00 payroll and does a lot of business in the city. Blasting is fundamental to a quarry operation and the rezone would threaten the continuing operation of the quarry. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the rezone conditioned upon the developer funding a traffic signal at Vestal and Maumelle Boulevard and that the quarry operation agree to forego future use of blasting. Mr. Dickenson said he will continue blasting at least two times a week for the next 12 to 15 years. He wants to be a good neighbor and has offered a compromise. He said they try to leave at least a ½ mile buffer. Mr. Dickenson said property surrounding property the quarry was purchased so the 800' buffer is on their property and continues to oppose this rezone without an 800' buffer. Housing should not be allowed next to a quarry and asphalt plant in an area zoned Industrial. Blasting begins at 5:00 a.m. with alarms and heavy equipment. Alderwoman Robinson asked what the hours of operation were for an average day. Alderman Witcher asked why the requirements for additional signalization and future blasting requirements were not in the legislation. Mr. Robert Voyles, Planning Director advised the Planning Commission recommended widening the street in Phase I and a traffic study. A signal would be required later. Maumelle Boulevard is congested in that area. Mr. Carter advised conditions on development are usually attached during plat review. Alderwoman Robinson expressed concern regarding vibration. Mr. Jim Julian is an attorney representing the McGeorge Construction Company and advised they would prefer a buffer of 1,000', however, they reduced that to 800'. There will be complaints against the quarry if the area becomes residential. The zoning ordinance of North Little Rock pertaining to Industrial Districts states that those areas are compatible to the physical surroundings and to adjacent Land Use Districts. Mr. Julian said his client wants to extend the buffer 800' across the northern portion of the Vestal property. Mr. Dickenson said they desire an 800' buffer from the outcropping and said the lines could follow the limits of the quarry as it is now. Mr. Jones said the 585' being proposed is not from the edge of the quarry, it is from the northern property line, parallel to the quarry. Mayor Hays asked about a 700' buffer. Mr. Dickenson reiterated 800' from the eventual quarry line. Mr. Jones said 700' from the quarry line is the same thing and reminded the council of 50' on the quarry property which could be considered in the buffer. Mr. Randy Fraiser is an attorney for Richardson Properties and represents Mr. Keith Richardson and his partner R. B. Smith. Mr. Fraiser provided photos of traffic on Maumelle Boulevard and advised secondary access has not been considered. The Richardson's property is in North Little Rock. Mr. Frasier provided letters to the City Clerk which were previously provided to the Planning Commission regarding the increased traffic. C-4 and other land use types were discussed, and as presented his clients are opposed to the changes. Mr. Frasier suggested a Planned Unit Development (PUD) to address the needs of the development. Mr. Ernie Peters, Peters and Associates Engineers reviewed a traffic study regarding the proposed development and said it could produce an additional 7,900 vehicles in the area. Without additional signalization the traffic situation will get worse. Mayor Hays said the city is working with the City of Maumelle regarding these issues. Mr. James Dietz is a member of the Planning Commission said the commission agreed the developers would take care of the intersection physically with a traffic signal and approval from the Highway Department would be required. Another concern was the cohabitation of the quarry and residential apartment dwellings. The quarry has been there for a long time and the operation should not be interrupted. Quarry operations could continue for 10 - 12 years. Alderman Hight asked if the parties could reach a written agreement regarding the length of quarry operations and when Mr. Vestal would finish developing his property. Mr. Stodola said the developers have been willing to compromise and it is not commercially viable for them to develop the property until the quarry operations cease. Mayor Hays adjourned the public hearing at 9:03 p.m. Mayor Hays recessed the meeting.

Mayor Hays reconvened the City Council meeting at 9:08 p.m. Mr. Voyles said the current land use plan indicates light industrial and commercial use. The proposal would change it to C-3 and R-4 and allow "clean commercial" use on Vestal, office and light retail, and apartments. The current land use plan was approved in 1992. Other areas would change as well. Mayor Hays then called O-05-39.

O-05-39 (ORDINANCE NO. 7718 - MAYOR HAYS)

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN AMENDED LAND USE PLAN FOR THE WESTERN PART OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK NORTH AND SOUTH OF MAUMELLE BOULEVARD; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read two times on June 13, 2005. A public hearing was held this date. The legislation was read a third and final time. On the motion of Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderman Gipson, and the roll having been called, and all members present, having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (7/0). On the emergency clause, the following members voted in

the affirmative, Gipson, Bryant, Robinson and Witcher, and the following members voted no, Thomas, Berry and Hight, the emergency clause failed (4/3).

O-05-40

AN ORDINANCE TO RECLASSIFY CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE WEST END OF VESTAL BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FROM C-1, C-2, C-4 AND I-2 TO R-4 AND C-3 CLASSIFICATION BY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 7697 OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read two times on June 13, 2005. A public hearing was held this date. The legislation was read a third and final time. A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Berry. Alderman Gipson made a motion to amend which was seconded by Alderman Witcher to change the distance as reflected in a map distributed this date (*to be referred to as Exhibit "B"*). A motion to amend was made by Alderman Thomas and seconded by Alderman Gipson to amend the buffer to 800' from the property line, and the following members having voted in the affirmative, Robinson, Thomas, Berry and Hight, and the following members voted no, Gipson, Bryant, and Witcher, the motion failed (4/3). Alderman Gipson said one of the parties agreed to a 700' buffer and one portion of the property would remain commercial. An additional 100' would take out one of the apartment buildings and a maintenance building. Alderman Gipson changed his previous motion to 700' from the quarry line. Mr. Jones said an additional 200' would take out eight buildings from the most usable part of the property. On the motion of Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Witcher, and by consent of all members present, with the exception of Aldermen Thomas and Berry, who voted no, the ordinance was amended as follows:: ATTACH EXHIBIT "B" *which reflects a proposed buffer of 800' FROM THE QUARRY LINE (OR 115' SOUTH OF VISIBLE LINE) (5/2) (a revised map to be provided)*. On the motion of Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderman Thomas, and by consent of all members present, the legislation was tabled until Tuesday, June 28, 2005, at 7:15 p.m., and will be included in the Special Call scheduled for that date (7/0), at which time the City Planning Office will provide the amendment (*referenced above*) to be attached.

Mayor Hays recessed the meeting briefly.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

R-05-62

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE FINANCING PLAN FOR A BASEBALL PARK IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, was called and withdrawn by the sponsor Mayor Hays.

O-05-29 (ORDINANCE NO. 7719 - ALDERWOMAN ROBINSON AND ALDERMAN WITCHER)

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE EAST BROADWAY SIGN OVERLAY DISTRICT AND AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 7697, THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK ZONING ORDINANCE: DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read one time on April 25, 2005; a public hearing was held May 9, 2005; was read a second and third time May 23, 2005, was read. On the motion of Alderwoman Robinson and seconded by Witcher, and by consent of all members present, with the exception of Alderman Hight who passed, the ordinance was amended as follows:: *Section 1: Section 11.8 (D). 2. 6 10 feet* (6/1). Alderman Witcher said a continuing concern is regarding "sight safety" around the signs. On the motion of Alderwoman Robinson and seconded by Alderman Witcher, and the roll having been called, and all members present, having voted in the affirmative, with the exception of Alderman Thomas who voted no, and Alderman Hight who passed, the ordinance was adopted as amended (5/2). On the emergency clause, the following members voted in the affirmative, Robinson and Witcher and the following members voted no, Gipson, Bryant, Thomas and Berry, and Alderman Hight passed, the emergency clause failed (2/5).

NEW BUSINESS

R-05-85 (RESOLUTION NO. 6787 - MAYOR HAYS)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDMENT TO A POWER SUPPLY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; ARKANSAS AND ENTERGY ARKANSAS, INC.; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Bryant, and by consent of all members present, with the exception of Alderman Witcher who passed, the resolution was adopted (6/1).

R-05-86 (RESOLUTION NO. 6788 - MAYOR HAYS)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A POWER SUPPLY AGREEMENT WITH WM RENEWABLE ENERGY, LLC; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. Alderman Gipson asked where the funds would come from. Mr. Bob Sisson, Finance Director suggested Short-Term Financing. On the motion of Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Bryant, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0).

R-05-87 (see beginning of agenda/presentations).

O-05-41

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF A ONE PERCENT (1%) SALES AND USE TAX FOR TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTHS WITHIN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS TO CONSTRUCTION A BASEBALL STADIUM AND TO EXPAND AND IMPROVE THE PATRICK H. HAYS SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER AND NEARBY PARKING FACILITIES; AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS PERTAINING THERETO, was read. On the motion of Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderman Hight, and by consent of all members present, with the exception of Alderman Thomas who voted no, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was placed on its second reading. The ordinance was read a second time and held at the request of the sponsor, Mayor Hays. A Special Call meeting will be held Tuesday, June 28, 2005, at 7:15 p.m.

O-05-42

AN ORDINANCE CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, ON THE QUESTION OF LEVYING A ONE PERCENT (1%) SALES AND USE TAX FOR TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTHS WITHIN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS TO CONSTRUCT A BASEBALL STADIUM AND TO EXPAND AND IMPROVE THE PATRICK H. HAYS SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER AND NEARBY PARKING FACILITIES; DEFINING THE TERM 'SINGLE TRANSACTION;' PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS PERTAINING THERETO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, was read. On the motion of Alderman Hight and seconded by Alderman Witcher, and by consent of all members present, with the exception of Alderman Thomas who voted no, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was placed on its second reading. The ordinance was read a second time and held at the request of the sponsor, Mayor Hays. A Special Call meeting will be

held Tuesday, June 28, 2005, at 7:15 p.m. Alderman Witcher advised the Senior Citizens Commission voted unanimously to support O-05-41 and O-05-42.

O-05-43 (ORDINANCE NO. 7720 - MAYOR HAYS)

AN ORDINANCE TO RECLASSIFY CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED SOUTH OF THE END OF NORTSHORE DRIVE IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FROM I-2 TO O-1 CLASSIFICATION BY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 7697 OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Hight, and by consent of all members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was placed on its second reading (7/0). On the motion of Alderman Hight and seconded by Alderwoman Robinson, and by consent of all members present, the rules were again suspended and ordinance was placed on its third and final reading (7/0). The roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (7/0). Emergency clause adopted (7/0).

Mayor Hays introduced Mr. Patrick Lane, newly appointed Street Department Director.

O-05-44 (ORDINANCE NO. 7721 - MAYOR HAYS)

AN ORDINANCE WAIVING FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS FOR REPAIRS TO A CATERPILLAR 320L EXCAVATOR; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Hight, and by consent of all members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was placed on its second reading (7/0). On the motion of Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Berry, and by consent of all members present, the rules were again suspended and the ordinance was placed on its third and final reading (7/0). The roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (7/0). Emergency clause adopted (7/0).

O-05-45 (ORDINANCE NO. 7722 - ALDERMEN PARKER AND BERRY)

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE FOR A SNOW CONE STAND IN A C-3 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4407 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderman Berry and seconded by Alderman Hight, and by consent of all members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was placed on its second reading (7/0). On the motion of Alderman Berry and seconded by Alderwoman Robinson, and by consent of all members present, the rules were again suspended and the ordinance was placed on its third and final reading (7/0). The ordinance was read a third and final time. On the motion of Alderman Berry and seconded by Alderwoman Robinson, and by consent of all members present, the ordinance was amended as follows:: *substitute copy provide this date deleting applicant Mr. Octavian Vasilescu, 602 East 14 Street, North Little Rock, AR 72114 changing applicant to* MR. GENE SULLIVAN, PO BOX 94971, NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AR 72190-4971 (7/0). A motion to adopt as amended was made by Alderman Berry and seconded by Alderman Bryant. On the motion of Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Berry, and by consent of all members present, the ordinance was again amended as follows:: *Section 2 (1) add* , AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS (7/0). Alderman Gipson asked if an officer of the Ashley Company had signed the application. Mr. Sullivan will operate the snow cone stand. On the motion of Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Berry, and the roll having been called, and all members present, having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted as amended (7/0). Emergency clause adopted (7/0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS-----

Alderman Hight advised the North Little Rock AAU Swim Team aka *The Stars* had five swimmers qualify to participate in the Junior Olympics in New Orleans, Louisiana in August. Alderwoman Robinson asked if there were designated locations for snow cone stands. Mr. Voyles said such businesses are handled as conditional use. Previously, they were located in C-3 or C-4 zones and required Planning Commission review. There is a problem with people setting up without permits. Alderman Thomas said there is a snow cone stand in his area. Alderman Thomas advised Mr. Paul Suskie, City Attorney will be sworn in tomorrow after serving with the Arkansas National Guard in Afghanistan. Mayor Hays thanked Andrea Woods and Jason Carter for their service as Acting City Attorney. Alderman Gipson said the State Land Commissioner will offer property for sale July 7, 2005. He said the city is mowing some of the property and may be holding liens on some of the parcels. Alderman Gipson said the city should consider setting up a “land bank”. Mayor Hays asked the council for a voice vote to thank the school district for the use of their facility. On the motion of Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Witcher, and by consent of all members present, the council voted for Mayor Hays to send a Resolution/letter to the North Little Rock School Superintendent Mr. Kirsipel thanking him and the district for use of their facility (7/0). Mr. Matthew Richard said he talked to the council six months ago regarding emergency clauses. Repair bids are one thing, shaved ice stands are another. He said items should not be rushed through, but handled at the regular council meetings. Mr. Richard was unaware of the proposed sales tax election. Mr. Richard lives at 5th and Willow and asked how the ball park will affect traffic. North Little Rock already has a one cent sales tax and a restaurant tax. He appreciated Alderman Thomas’ vote against emergency clause items and asked the council to not support the emergency clause June 28, 2005. Mr. Sam Baggett said he supports the sales tax. He worked for the tax before and the tax money went where it was supposed to at the Library and the Hays Center. The senior citizens deserve improvements to their facility. Mr. Baggett encouraged everyone to vote for the sales tax and said it would only be for two years. More parking is needed downtown. Mr. Bobby Taylor asked if any of the tax money would go to the Pulaski County Jail. Mr. Taylor said the Morgan Building at the corner of Boyer and Middle is overgrown and needs to be looked at. Mr. Jim Ard said the ball park is needed in North Little Rock and asked the mayor to consider a contract with the police and fire departments if the tax passes. Mr. Joe Reynolds doesn’t live in the city but does spend money here. Most people do not want to pay more taxes and he cannot support it with the economy as it is. He said he has gone to Ray Winder Field since 1956 and likes the facility.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Alderman Gipson and seconded by Alderman Witcher, and no one else wishing to be heard, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m., until a Special Call meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 28, 2005, at 7:15 p.m. and the next regular meeting to be held on Monday, July 11, 2005, at seven o’clock p.m. in the North Little Rock School Administration Building Board Room, located at 2700 Poplar, in the Administration Office Board Room, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

APPROVED:
MAYOR PATRICK HENRY HAYS

ATTEST:
DIANE WHITBEY, CITY CLERK